



phoenix

DAWN



BY OSAMU TEZUKA

Phoenix: Dawn
Vol. 1
VIZ Signature Edition

STORY AND ART BY
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Editor/Alvin Lu

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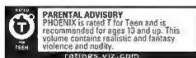
A message to our readership:

Some of the phrasing and expressions in the work you are about to read reflect the time and context in which it was originally created and thus might not be in accordance with present standards. The author had an unflinching dedication to conveying several themes through the art of manga, such as the importance of nature, love and peace; a warning against the idolization of science, and the preciousness of life. It is clear that at the root of his work there is a strong belief in the power of human love overall.

We believe that publishing a faithful translation is essential to accurately conveying the message within the work itself as intended by the author, as well as protecting its integrity as a part of Japan's cultural heritage and preserving it for future generations. We therefore appreciate your understanding as you enjoy this work of art.

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Also by Osamu Tezuka available from Viz

Adolf: A Tale of the Twentieth Century

Adolf: An Exile in Japan

Adolf: The Half-Aryan

Adolf: Days of Infamy

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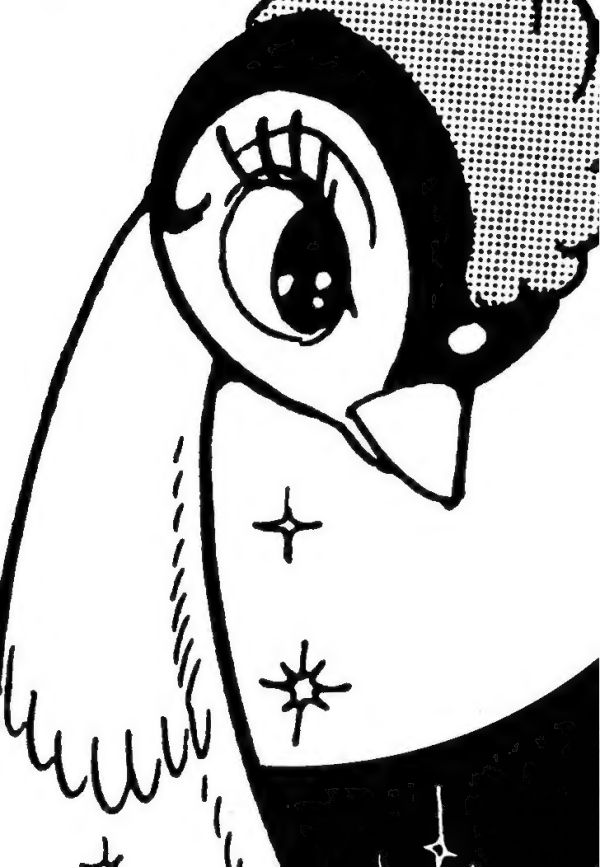
Phoenix: A Tale of the Future

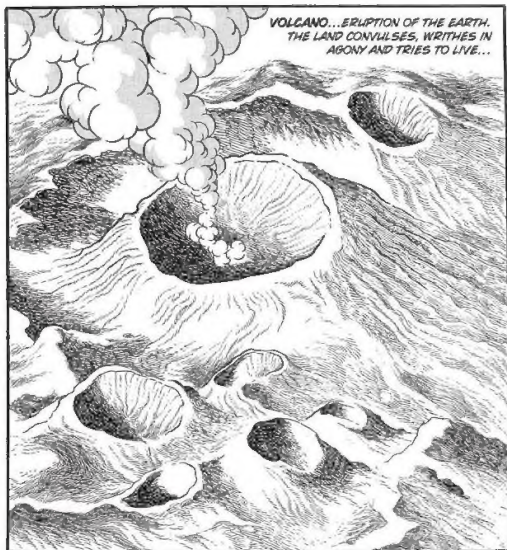
The word "Phoenix" is written in a stylized, jagged, white font with a grey shadow. The letters are sharp and angular, resembling flames or a phoenix rising from the ashes. The background is black with a large white crescent moon in the upper right and several small white star-like symbols scattered across the scene.

Phoenix

DAWN

BY OSAMU TEZUKA

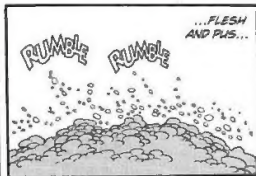




VOLCANO...ERUPTION OF THE EARTH.
THE LAND CONVULSES, WRITHES IN
AGONY AND TRIES TO LIVE...

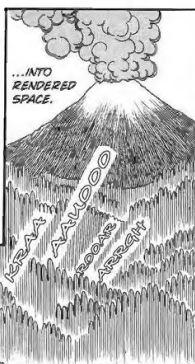
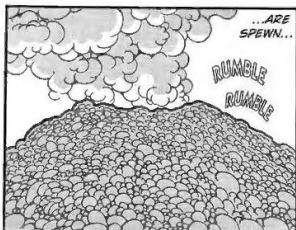


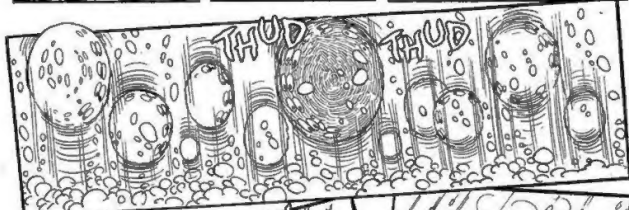
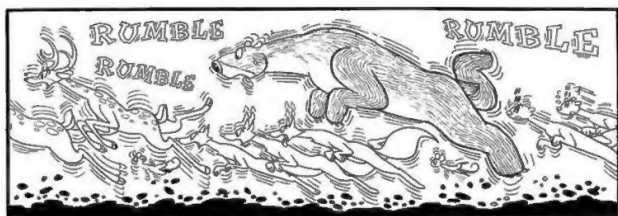
ITS OWN
BLOOD...



...FLESH
AND PUS...

RUMBLE RUMBLE







IN GREEK
MYTHOLOGY
THE GOD OF
THE VOLCANO
IS CALLED
VULCAN. ONCE
ANGERED, HIS
VOICE TURNS
THE AIR INSIDE
OUT AND
CAUSES THE
SEA TO
TREMBLE IN
FEAR....



SEETHING FILTH
ENVELOPES THE
SURROUNDING
AREA IN
THICKENING
LAYERS...



...ENTOMBING
EVERYTHING
LIVING
AND NON-
LIVING.

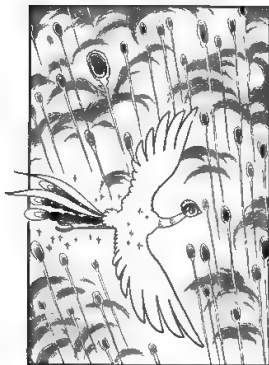


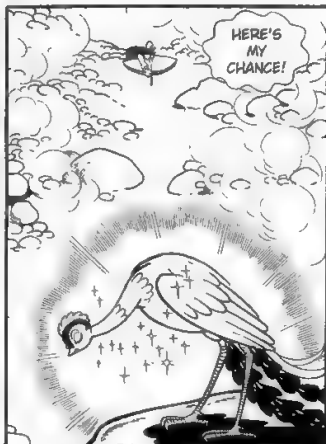
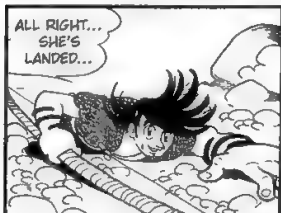
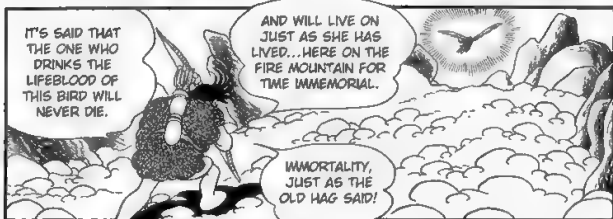
IN THE
MIDST
OF THIS
PURGA-
TORY...

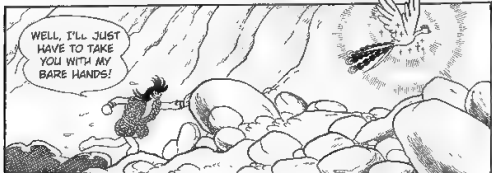
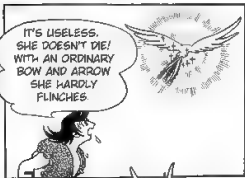


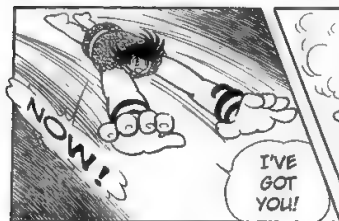
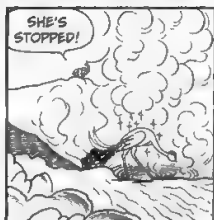
...THROUGH
SOME
WHIM OF
VULCAN...

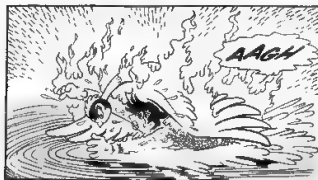
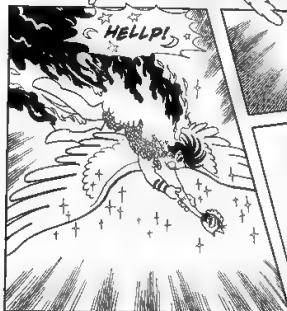


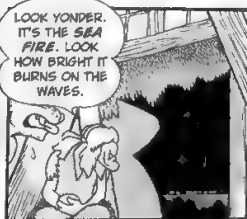
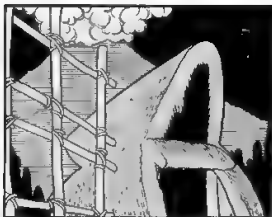


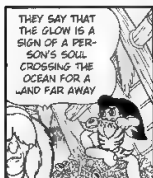


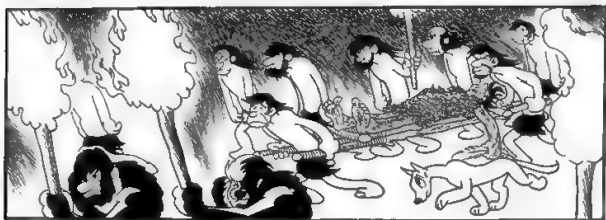


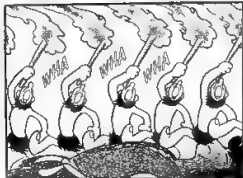
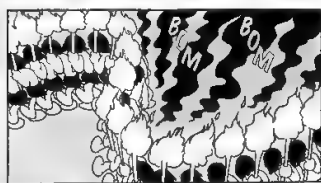
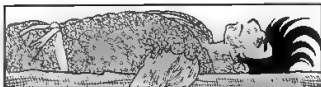


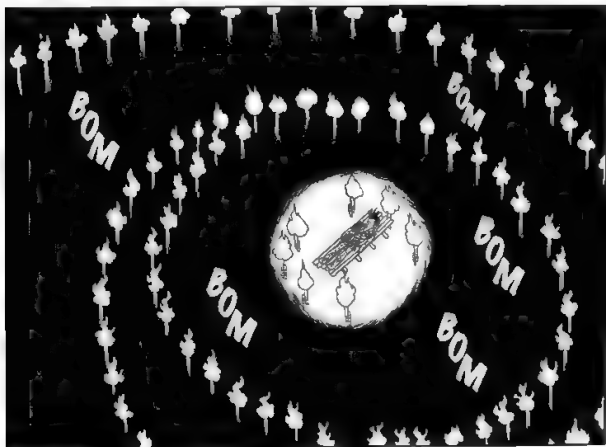
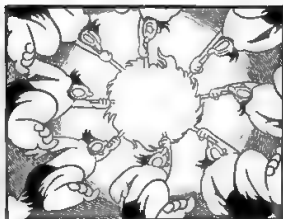








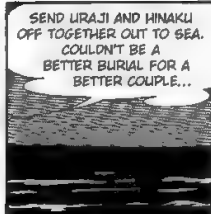


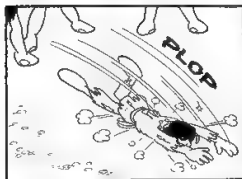


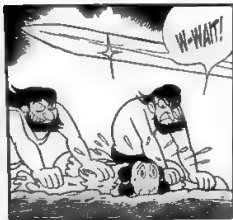
HE
SURELY
WAS,
CHIEF.

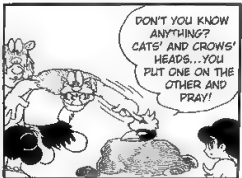
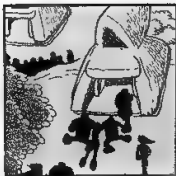


RIGHT,
AND WITH
HINAKU
ON HER
DEATH BED
AND ALL...









YOU PUT
FISH BONES ON HER
FOREHEAD, HEAT
HER BACK...

AND THEN
YOU MAKE
HER
SWALLOW
TAD-
POLES...

WHAT TH-!?
THAT'LL ONLY MAKE
HER DIE SOONER!

BOY! ARE YOU HER
BROTHER? IF YOU WANT
TO HELP HER, RUN
AND BRING ME SOME
MOLD.

MOLD?

THAT'S RIGHT, MOLD! AND IT'S
BETTER IF IT'S BLUE. LOOK FOR
IT AND YOU'LL FIND IT
EVERYWHERE.

COLLECT
MOLD?
IS HE
CRAZY?

HMPH!
SOME
WEIRD
SUPER-
STITION.

MIND YOUR
WORDS. THIS
MAY BE THE
WAY PEOPLE
HEAL IN HIS
COUNTRY.

YOU
COULDN'T
CURE HER,
SO STILL
YOUR
TONGUES
AND
WATCH!

I NEED MORE!
GET ENOUGH
TO FILL THAT
BOWL!

AND THEN
READY SOME
OIL MADE
FROM BEANS!

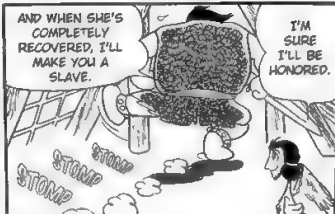
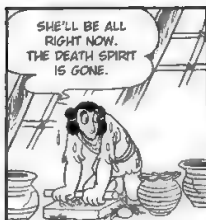
AND MIX
THIS WITH
THE
MOLD...

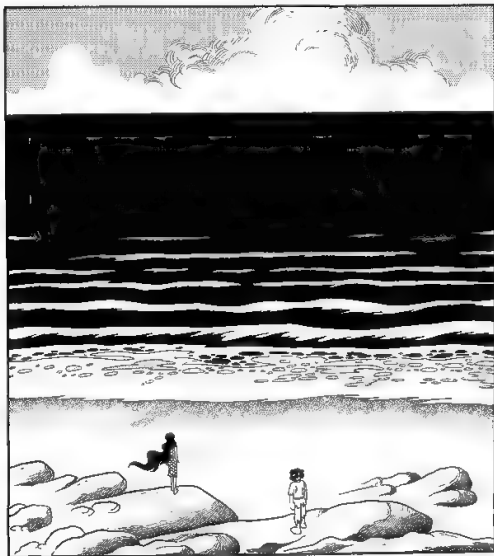


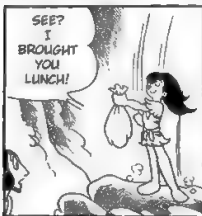
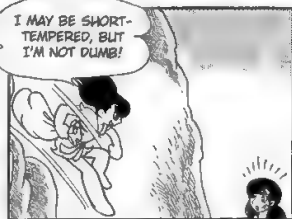
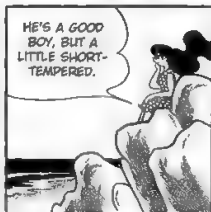
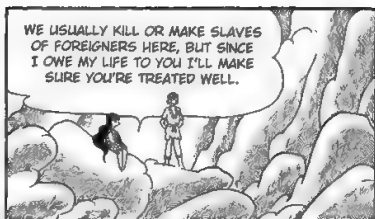
AS IS COMMONLY KNOWN, BLUE MOLD CONTAINS A DRUG CALLED PENICILLIN, WHICH IS HIGHLY EFFECTIVE IN TREATING CONTAGIOUS DISEASES AND FESTERING WOUNDS. THE SICKNESS MINAKU IS SUFFERING FROM APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY BACTERIA ENTERING A CUT MADE BY DRIED GRASS, AND IS PROBABLY TETANUS, WHICH PENICILLIN IS VERY EFFECTIVE IN CURING.

ALTHOUGH TODAY IT IS USUALLY GIVEN AS AN INJECTION, IN THIS AGE THERE WAS NO SUCH THING AS A HYPODERMIC, LEAVING NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO HAVE THE PATIENT DRINK IT. IN DOING SO, FIVE TIMES THE AMOUNT REQUIRED FOR AN INJECTION WAS NECESSARY.



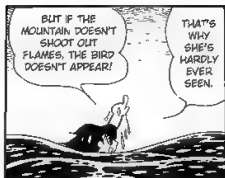


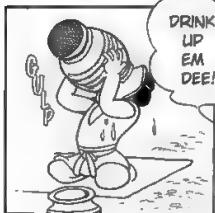
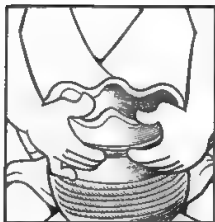




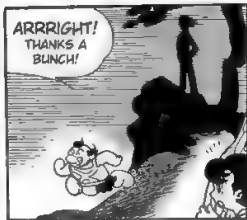
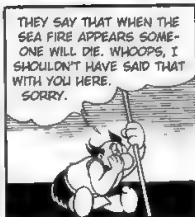


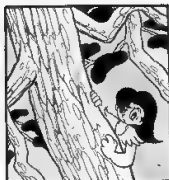


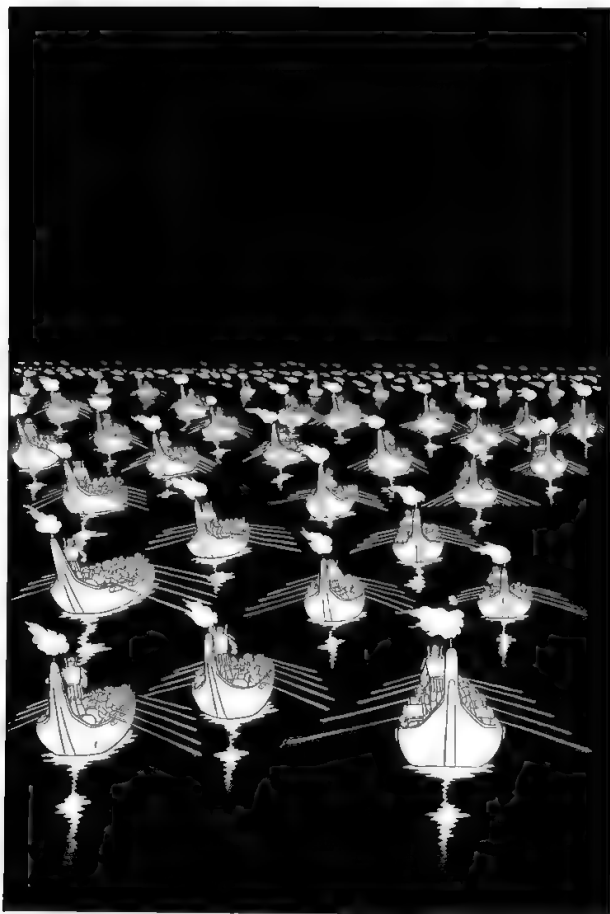


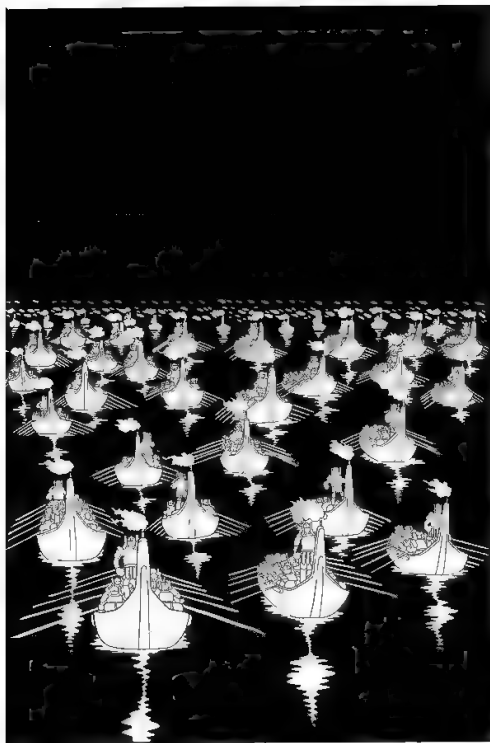




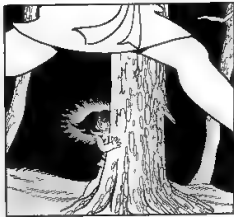
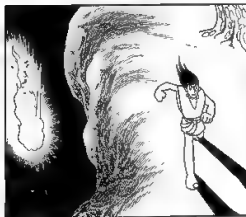


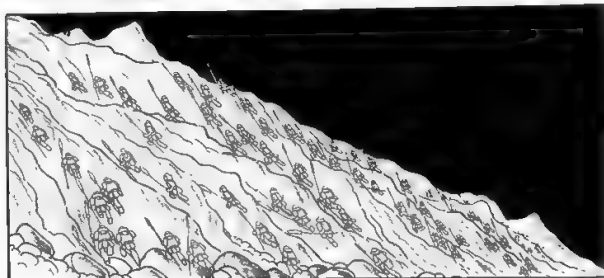
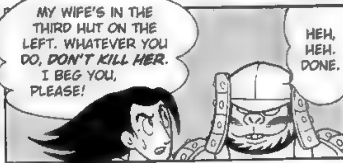
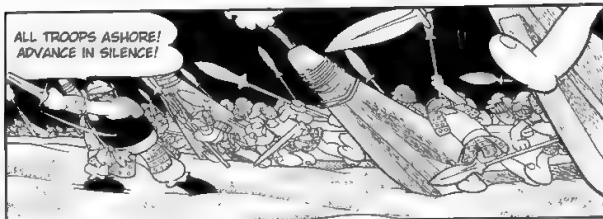


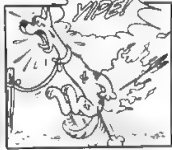
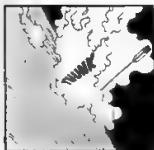
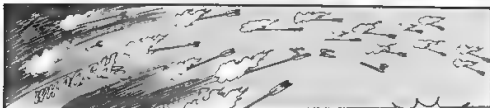


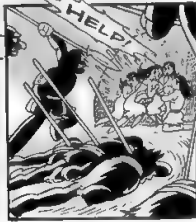


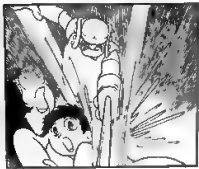


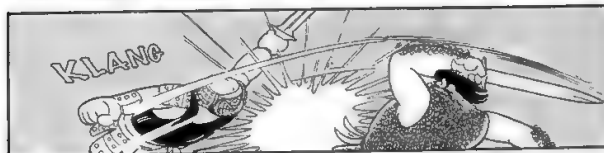


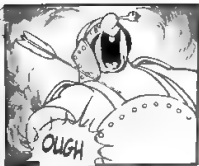
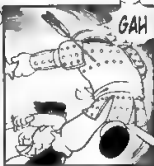


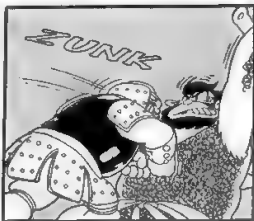
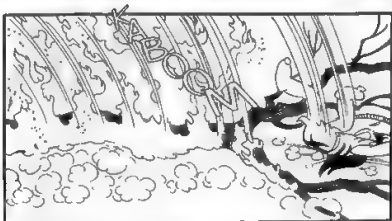
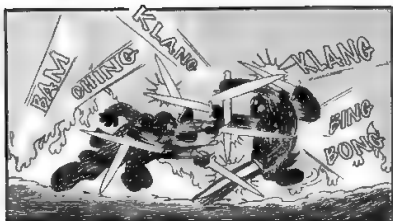


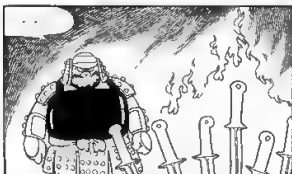
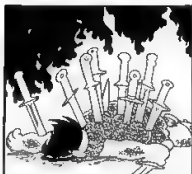
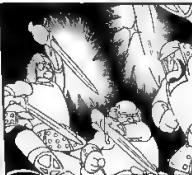


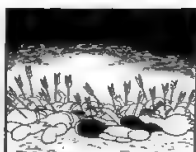
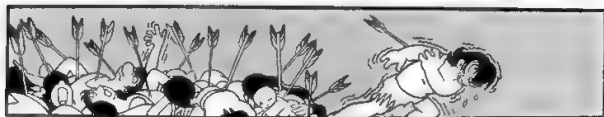
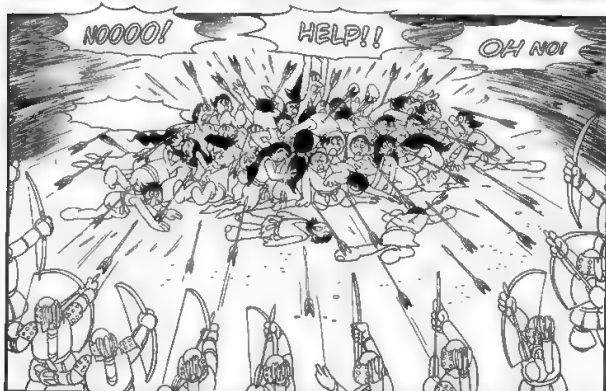
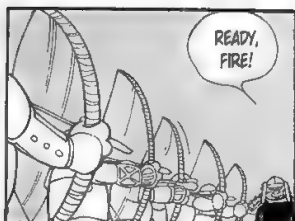




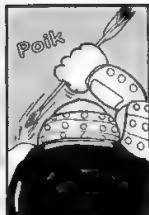
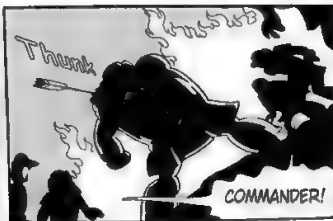


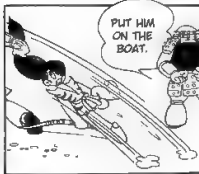
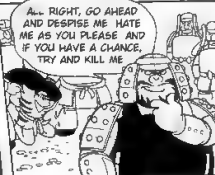
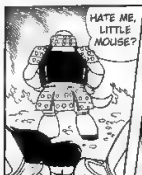


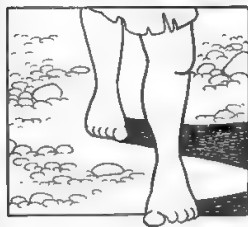
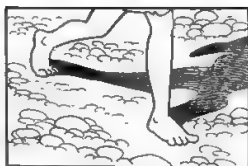






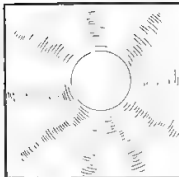
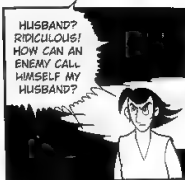


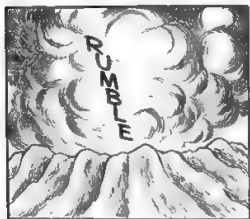
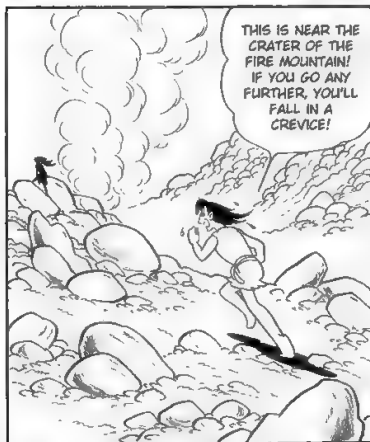
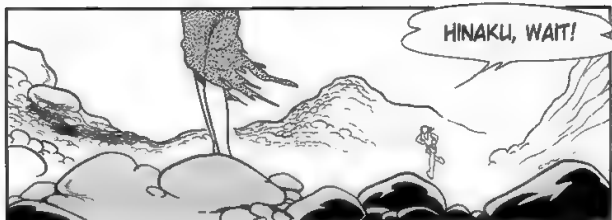


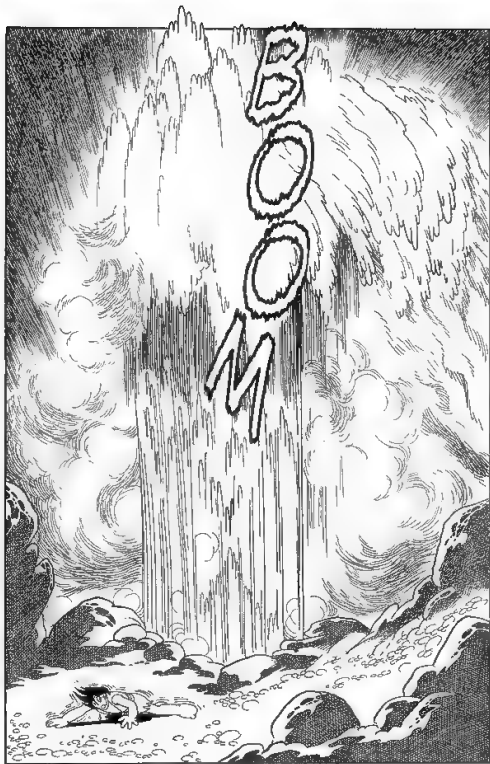


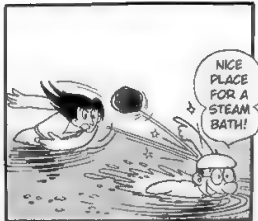
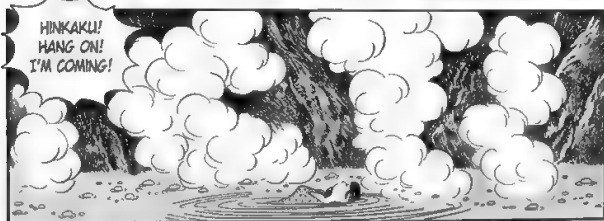
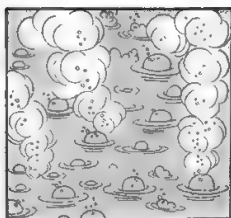


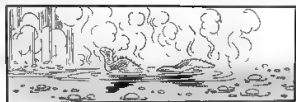
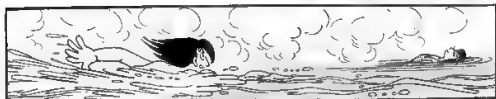


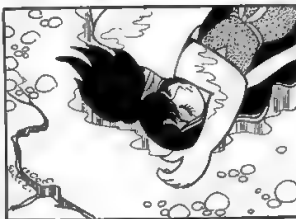
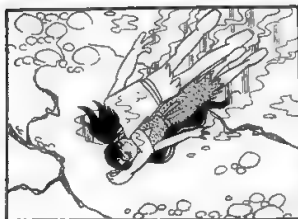
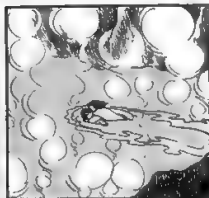
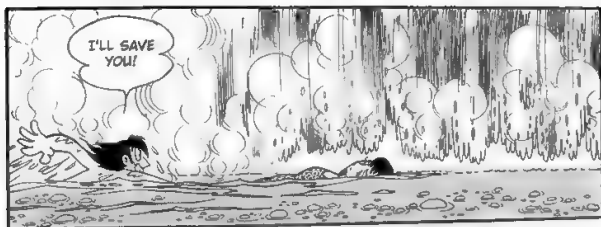


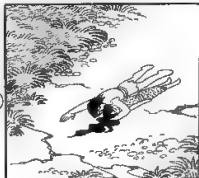
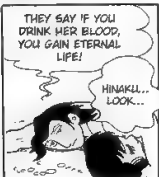
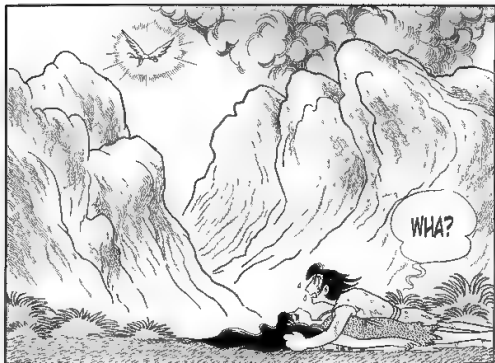








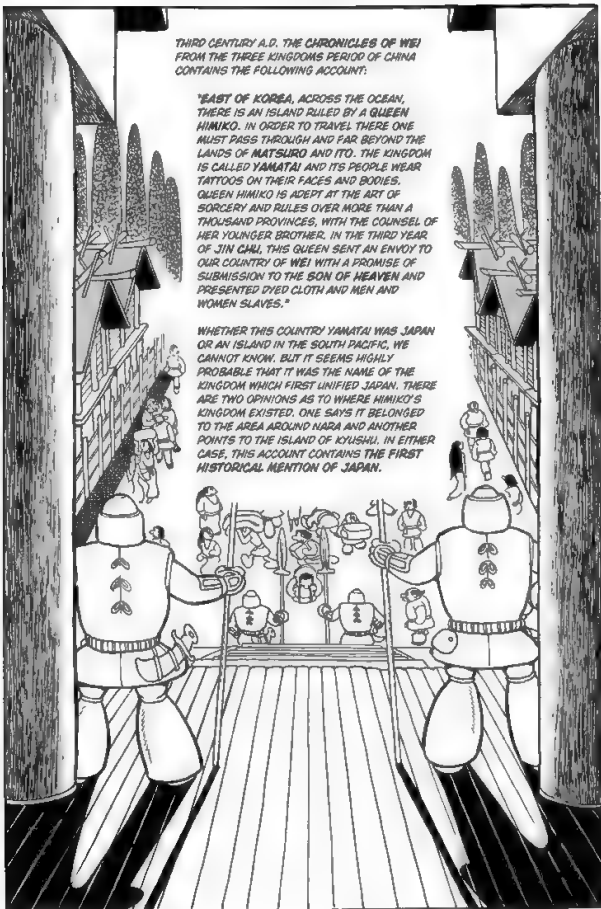




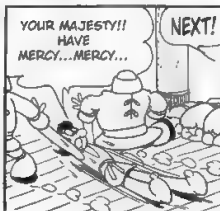
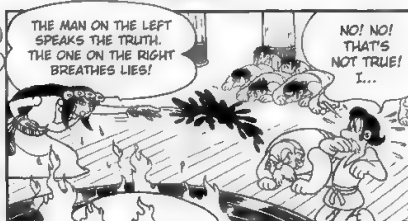
THIRD CENTURY A.D. THE CHRONICLES OF WEI
FROM THE THREE KINGDOMS PERIOD OF CHINA
CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT:

"EAST OF KOREA, ACROSS THE OCEAN,
THERE IS AN ISLAND RULED BY A QUEEN
HIMIKO. IN ORDER TO TRAVEL THERE ONE
MUST PASS THROUGH AND FAR BEYOND THE
LANDS OF MATSURO AND ITO. THE KINGDOM
IS CALLED YAMATAI AND ITS PEOPLE WEAR
TATTOOS ON THEIR FACES AND BODIES.
QUEEN HIMIKO IS ADEPT AT THE ART OF
SORCERY AND RULES OVER MORE THAN A
THOUSAND PROVINCES, WITH THE COUNSEL OF
HER YOUNGER BROTHER. IN THE THIRD YEAR
OF JIN CHU, THIS QUEEN SENT AN ENVOY TO
OUR COUNTRY OF WEI WITH A PROMISE OF
SUBMISSION TO THE SON OF HEAVEN AND
PRESENTED DYED CLOTH AND MEN AND
WOMEN SLAVES."

WHETHER THIS COUNTRY YAMATAI WAS JAPAN
OR AN ISLAND IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, WE
CANNOT KNOW. BUT IT SEEMS HIGHLY
PROBABLE THAT IT WAS THE NAME OF THE
KINGDOM WHICH FIRST UNIFIED JAPAN. THERE
ARE TWO OPINIONS AS TO WHERE HIMIKO'S
KINGDOM EXISTED. ONE SAYS IT BELONGED
TO THE AREA AROUND NARA AND ANOTHER
POINTS TO THE ISLAND OF KYUSHU. IN EITHER
CASE, THIS ACCOUNT CONTAINS THE FIRST
HISTORICAL MENTION OF JAPAN.

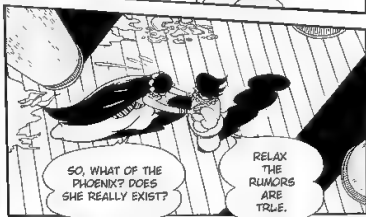












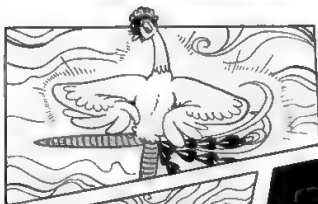
WITH AN
ARROW OR
SPEAR
SHE CAN
NEVER BE
KILLED.



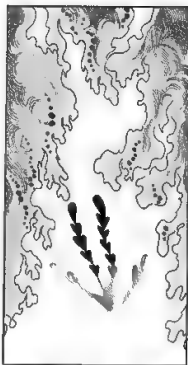
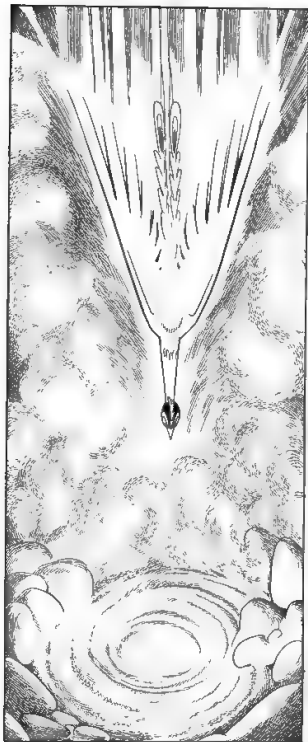
NO ONE
KNOWS
HOW MANY
MILLIONS
OF YEARS
SHE HAS
LIVED.

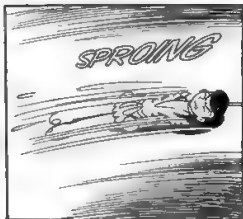
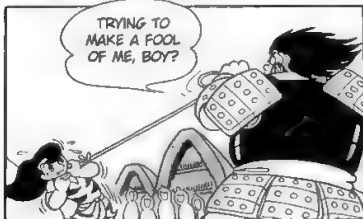
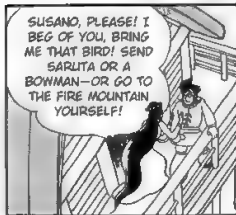


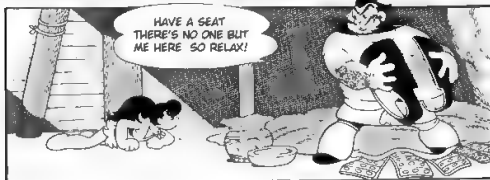
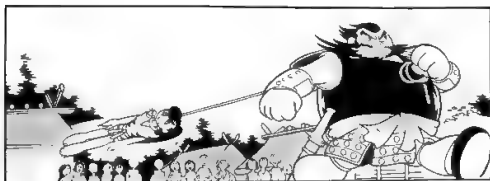
ACCORDING TO THE
PRISONER FROM THE
VILLAGE OF KUMASO,
HIS GRANDFATHER
WAS TOLD OF THE
PHOENIX AS A CHILD
BY HIS
GRANDFATHER.



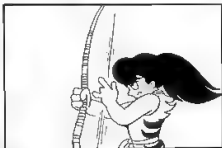
MOREOVER, THE
PHOENIX IS CLEVER.
SHE HAS MORE
KNOWLEDGE THAN
MAN AND CAN DANCE,
SPEAK, AND EVEN
WRITE THINGS THAT
ARE DIFFICULT FOR
US.

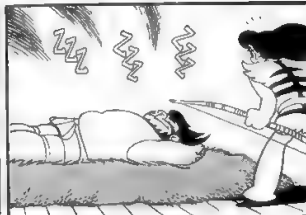
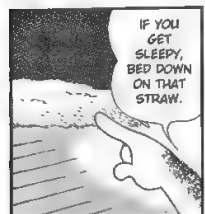
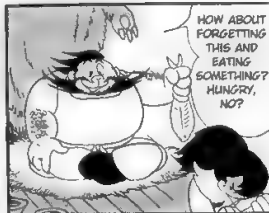


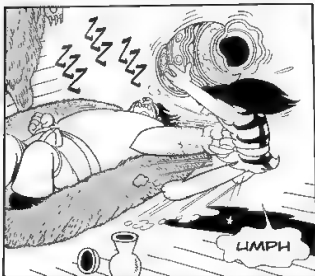


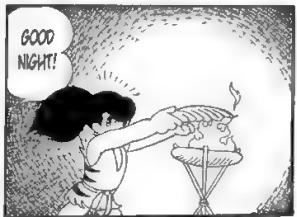
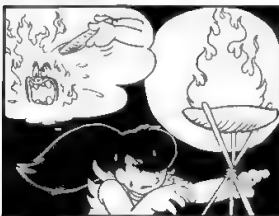
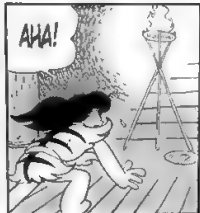
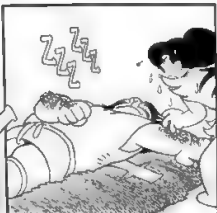
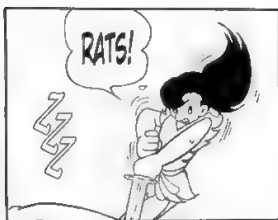




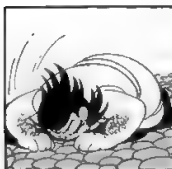
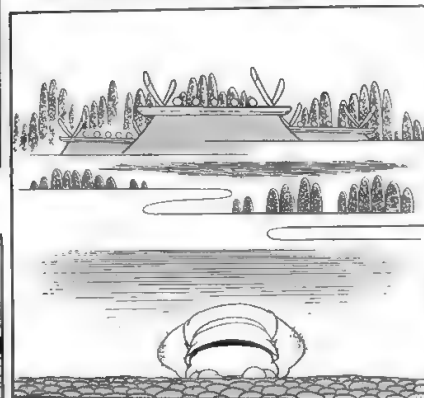
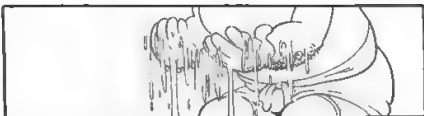


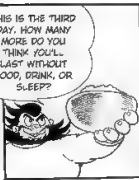


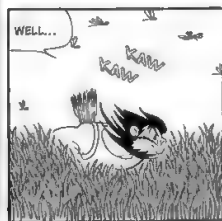
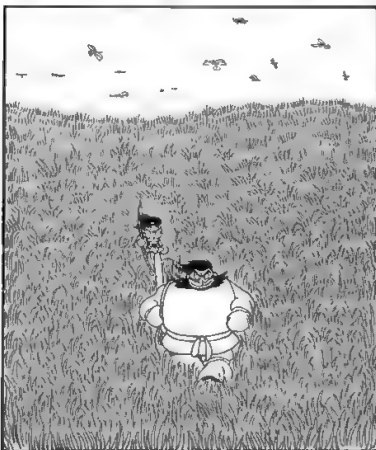
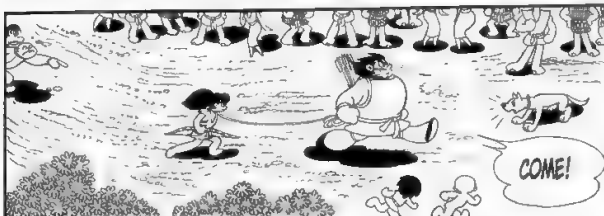


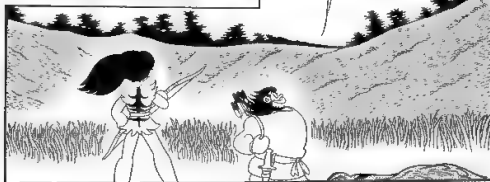
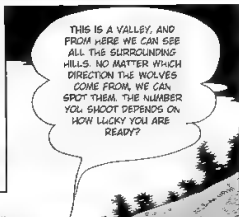


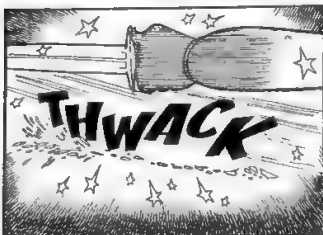
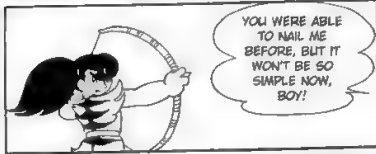


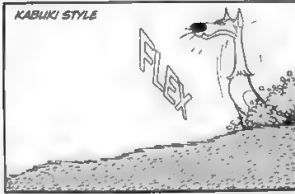
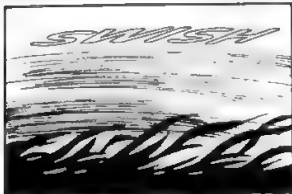
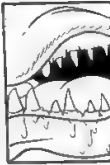
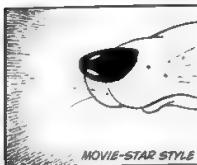
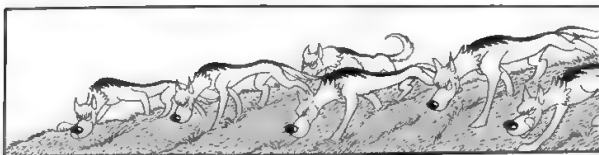
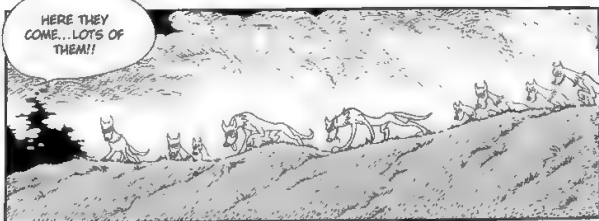
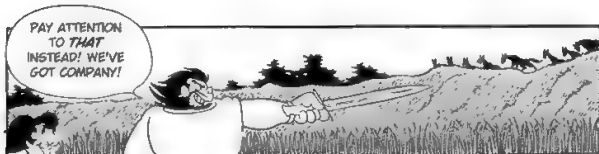


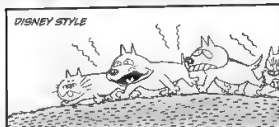


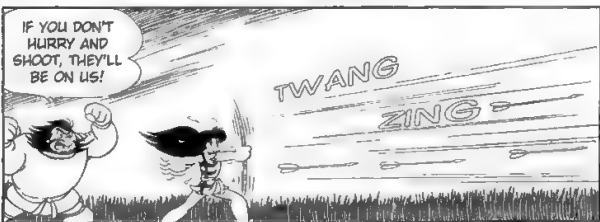
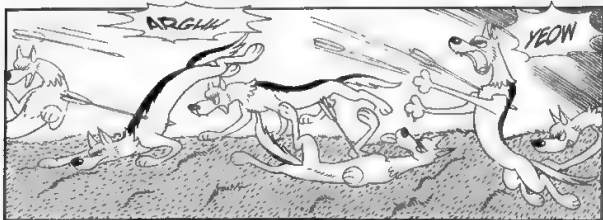


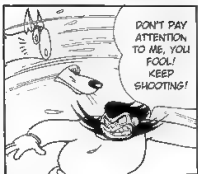
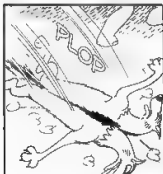
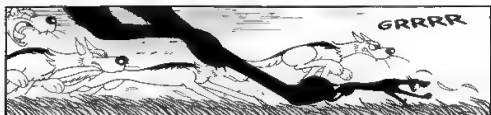


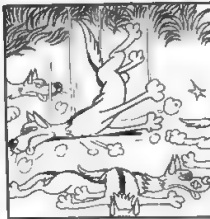
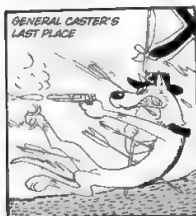
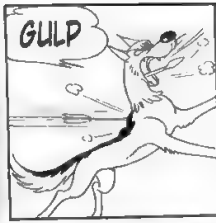




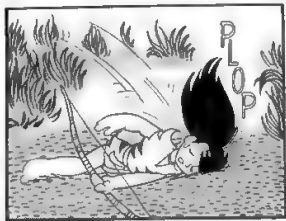


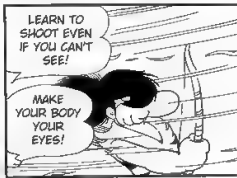


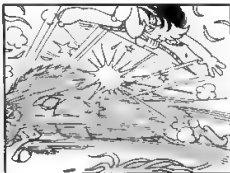
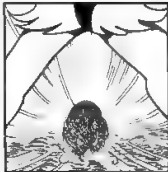
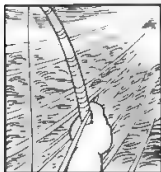
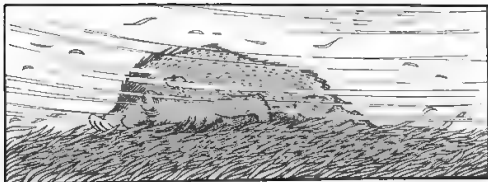


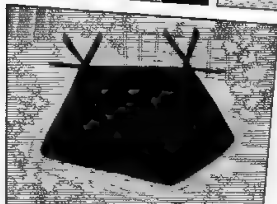


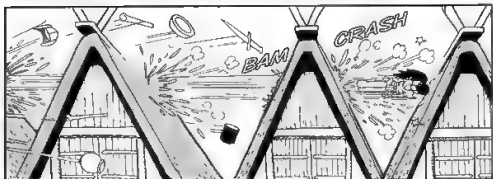
YOU GOT
33 OF
THEM!

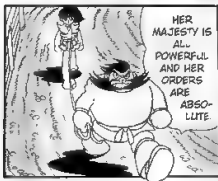


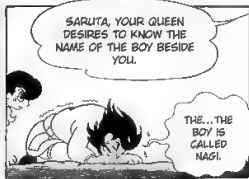
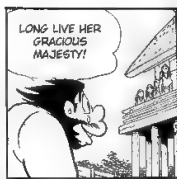


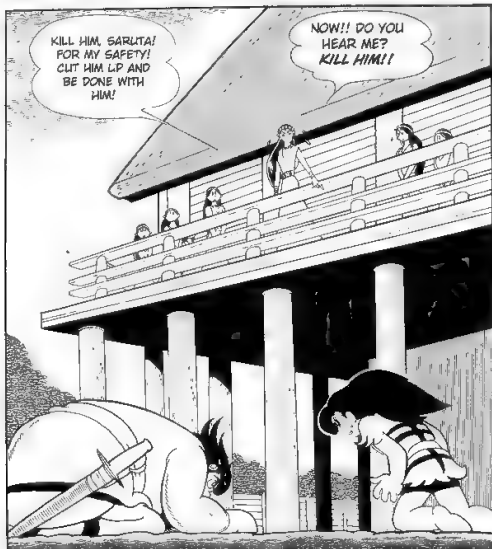


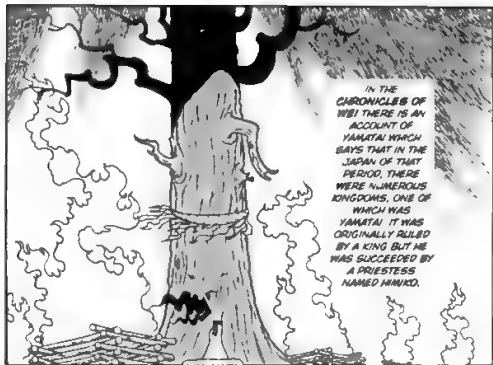




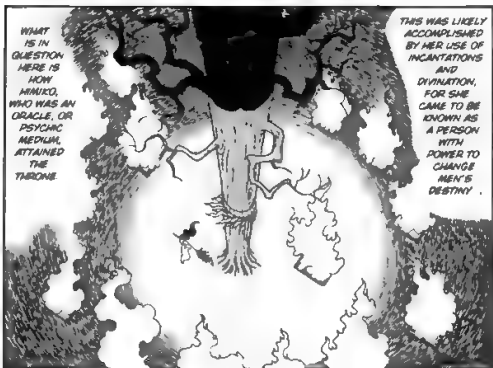






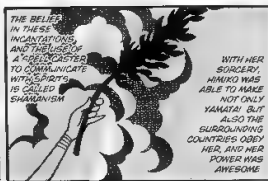
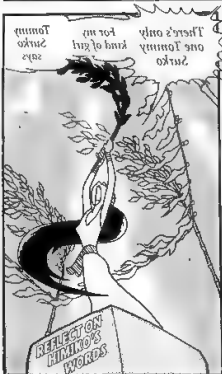
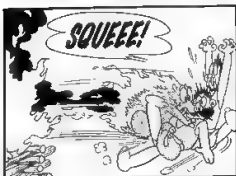
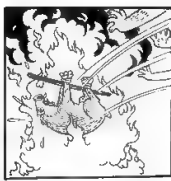


IN THE
CHRONICLES OF
YAMI THERE IS AN
ACCOUNT OF
YAMATAI WHICH
SAYS THAT IN THE
JAPAN OF THAT
PERIOD, THERE
WERE NUMEROUS
KINGDOMS, ONE OF
WHICH WAS
YAMATAI. IT WAS
ORIGINALLY RULED
BY A KING BUT HE
WAS SUCCEEDED BY
A PRIESTESS
NAMED MINIKO.



WHAT
IS IN
QUESTION
HERE IS
HOW
MINIKO,
WHO WAS AN
ORACLE, OR
PSYCHIC
MEDIUM,
ATTAINED
THE
THRONE.

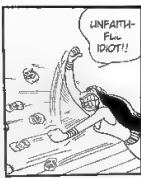
THIS WAS LIKELY
ACCOMPLISHED
BY HER USE OF
INCANTATIONS
AND
DIVINATION,
FOR SHE
CAME TO BE
KNOWN AS
A PERSON
WITH
POWER TO
CHANGE
MEN'S
DESTINY.

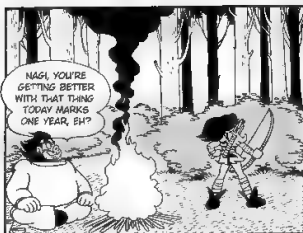






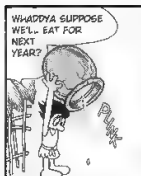
HAVEN'T YOU THE COURAGE TO KILL THIS GNAT?!

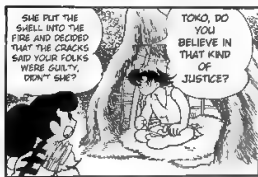


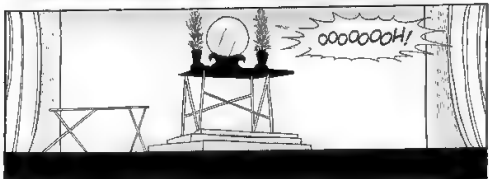
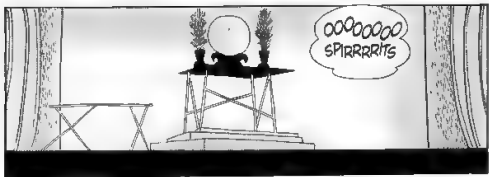
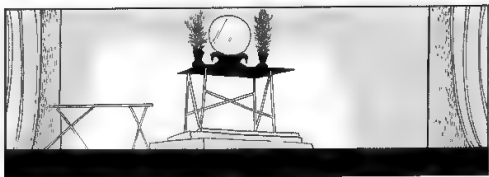


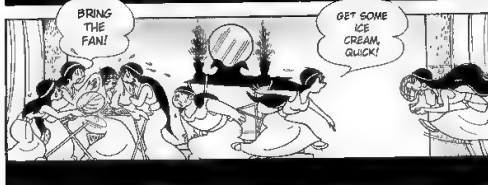
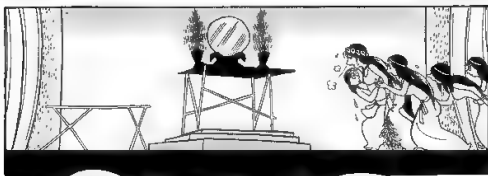
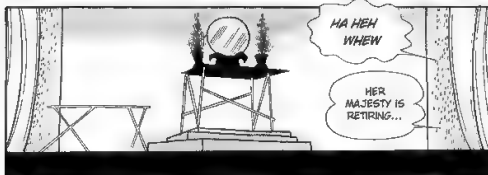


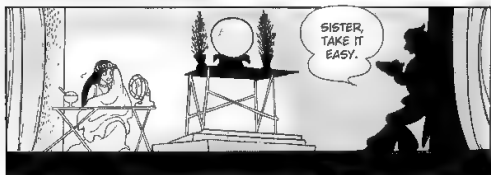


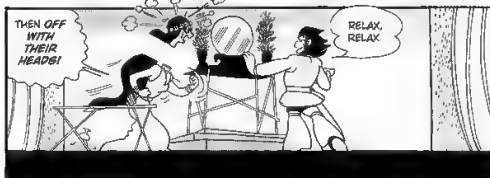


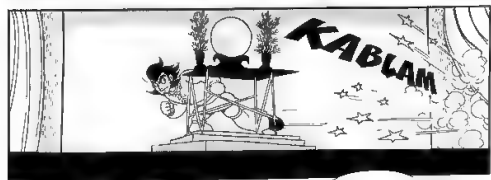
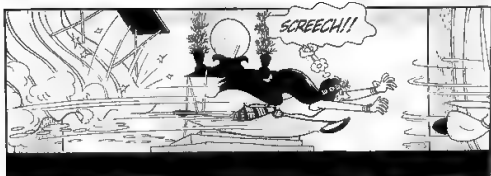
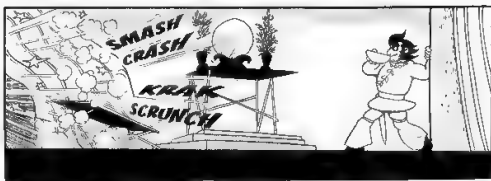


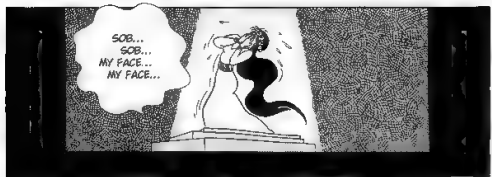


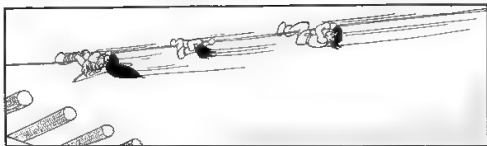
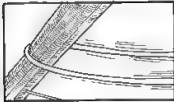
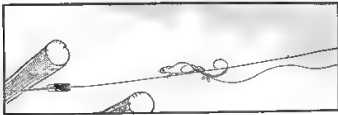
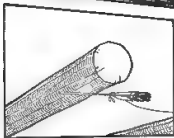
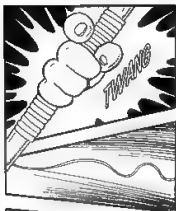
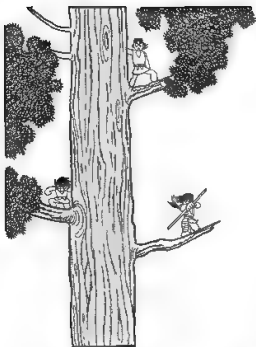


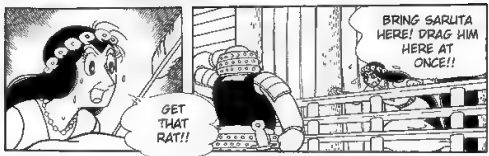


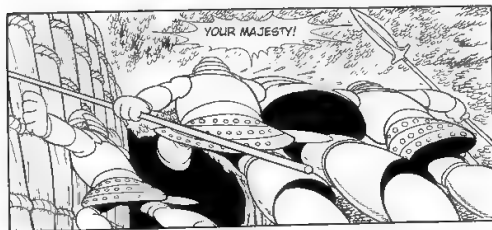
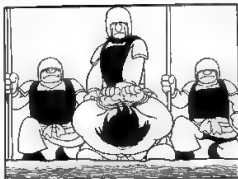


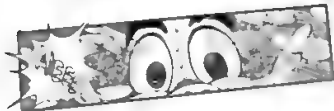
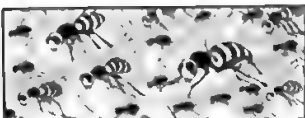


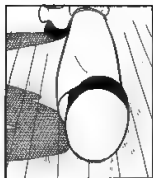


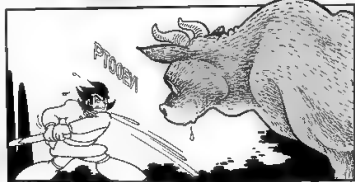
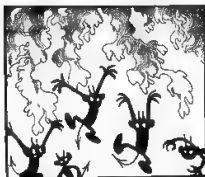


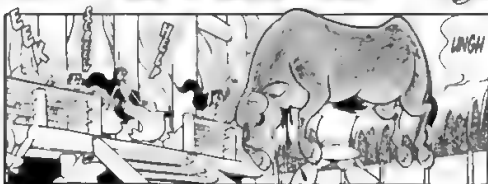
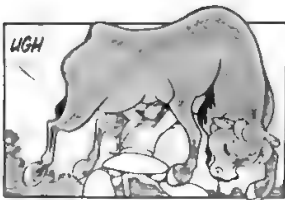


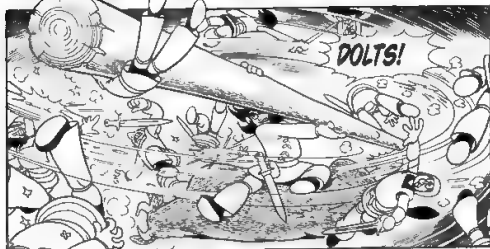


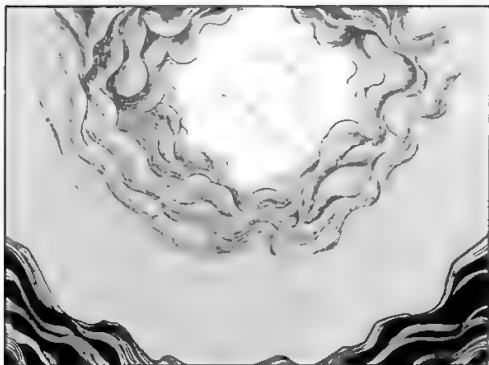












NO! NO!

THE SUN'S
BEING EATEN!
IT'S THE END OF
THE WORLD!

HELP!

OH NO!



THE SUN
IS DIS-
APPEAR-
ING!



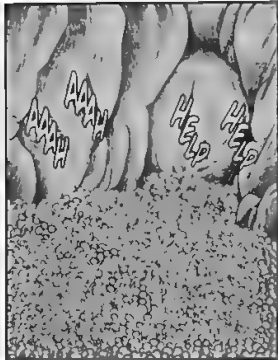
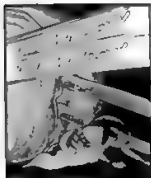
YOUR
MAJESTY,
PLEASE
USE YOUR
POWER TO
QUELL THE
WRATH OF
THE SUN
GOD!

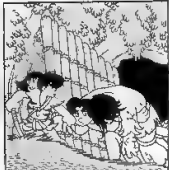
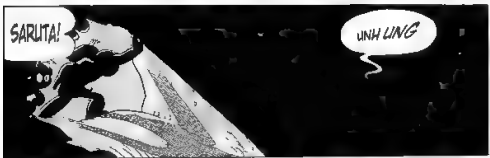
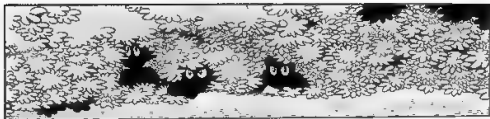


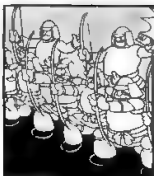
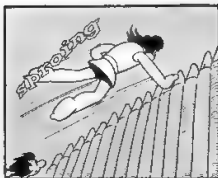
NO...NO...NO!

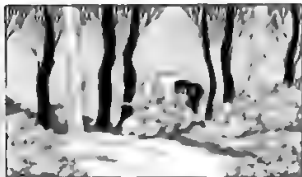
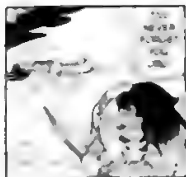


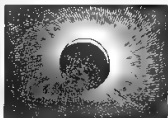






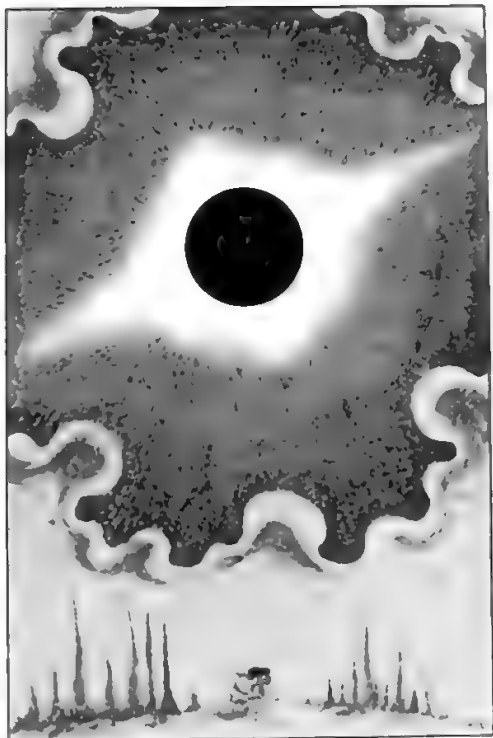






THE SUN BECAME SMALLER AND SMALLER, UNTIL IT APPEARED AS A TREMBLING SLIVER SHEDDING A DARK CRIMSON LIGHT ON THE EARTH. SHADOWS OF THE LIVING GRADUALLY WEAKENED AS NAGI WALKED THROUGH THE GRASS, TREES, MOUNTAINS, AND RIVERS FROZEN IN SLEEP. AS HE WALKED EVER NORTHWARD...







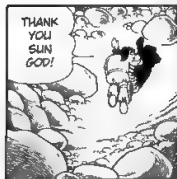
AT LAST!
THE SEA...
JUST AS
ORO SAID



OH GOD OF THE SUN, LET ME
THANK YOU. I DON'T KNOW
WHY YOU HAVE CHOSEN TO
BECOME MY ALLY, BUT THANKS
TO THE DARKNESS,
I ESCAPED



BUT NOW I NEED
SOME LIGHT!
I HAVE TO LOOK FOR THE
BOAT SOMEWHERE IN
THESE BOULDERS...



THANK
YOU
SUN
GOD!



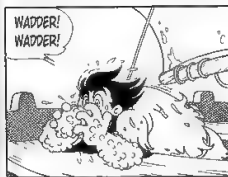
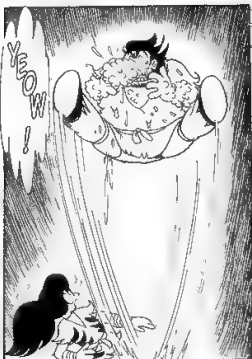
AH!
HERE
IT IS!

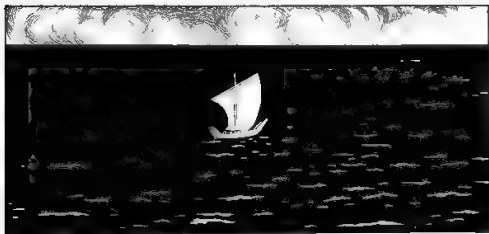
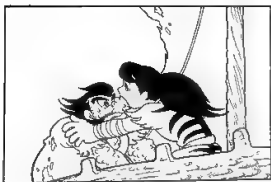
THERE'S
PROBABLY A
BIG FUSS BACK
AT THE CAPITAL
RIGHT NOW.

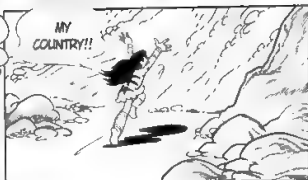
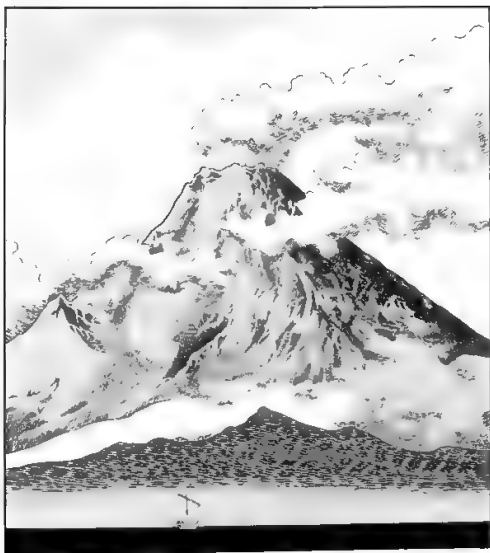
THEY'LL PROBABLY BE
COMING AFTER ME
PRETTY SOON. BUT BY
THEN I'LL BE WELL
OUT TO SEA.

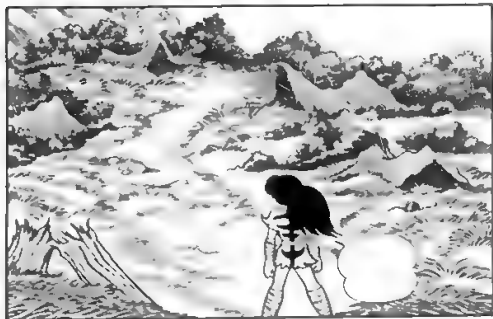
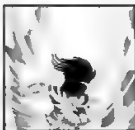
WINDS!
BLOW US
HOMEWARD!
HA HA
HA HA



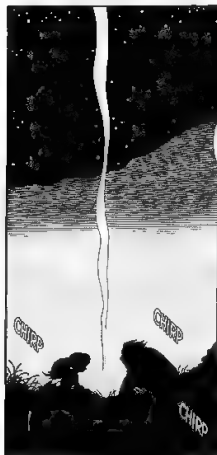


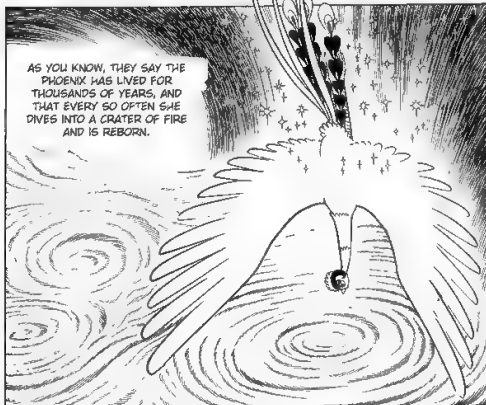










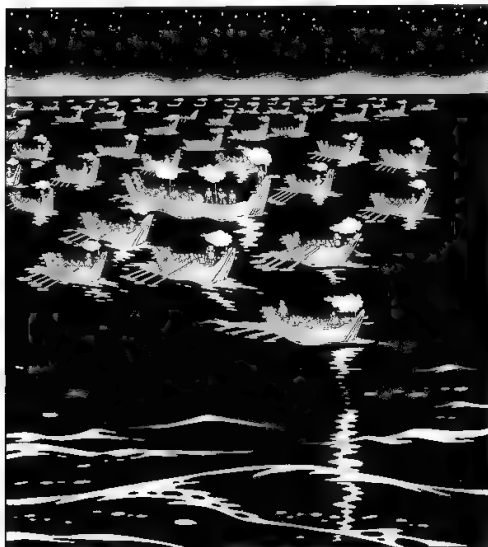




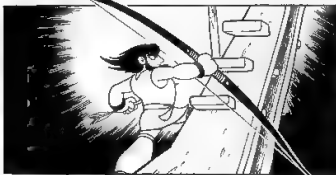
AND THE
REASON I
DESTROYED
YOUR VILLAGE ON
HER MAJESTY'S
ORDERS
IS...



THAT OLD HAG
HIMKO WITH HER
ONE FOOT IN THE
GRAVE WOULD BE
BETTER OFF
CHOKING ON MUD
THAN HAVING THE
PHOENIX'S
BLOOD!



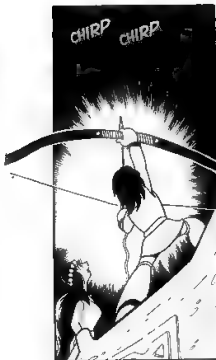




THE TIP IS BARBED, SO
ONCE IT HITS THE BIRD IT
CAN'T BE WITHDRAWN. AND
SINCE IT'S IRON, IT CAN'T BE
BROKEN.



CHIRP CHIRP

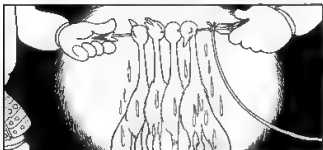
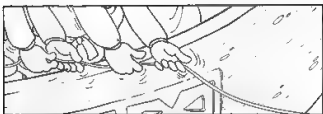


WHOOOSH



CHIRP
CHEEP

SPLASH



BRAVO,
BOWMAN!



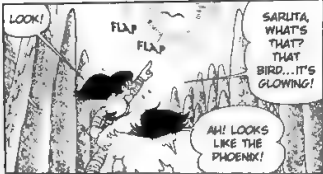
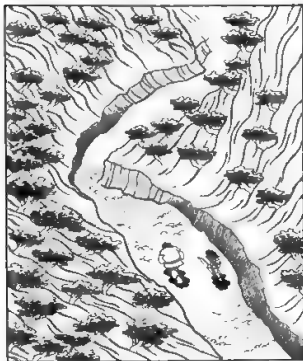
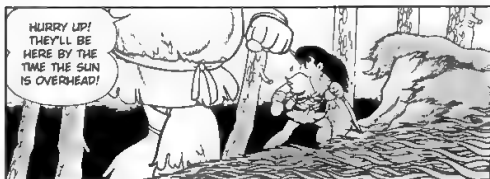
WITH YOU,
THE
PHOENIX IS
AS GOOD AS
MINE!

SARUTA
AND YOUR
BRAT,
YOU'LL
NOT TAKE
HER FROM
ME!

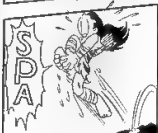
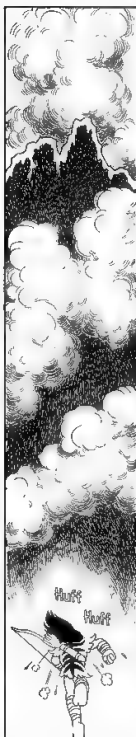


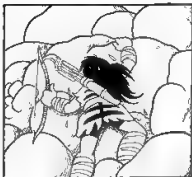
ACCORDING TO JAPANESE MYTHOLOGY, AS THE GOD NINIGI NO MIKOTO DESCENDED FROM HEAVEN, HE MET THE STRANGE GOD SARUTA HIKO NO MIKOTO. SARUTA HIKO NO MIKOTO IS GENERALLY REGARDED AS THE ANCESTOR OF THE TENGU, A UNIQUE GOBLIN OF JAPAN WITH AN AWESOMELY LONG NOSE. IN PAINTINGS, THE TENGU IS OFTEN DEPICTED AS AN ASCETIC, AND ALTHOUGH HIS LONG-NOSED COUNTEenance APPEARS VERY STERN, IT BEARS A STRIKING RESEMBLANCE TO THAT OF THE PROBOSCIS MONKEY THAT LIVES IN BORNEO. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE ANCESTORS OF THE PRESENT JAPANESE, WHO IN ANCIENT TIMES MIGRATED FROM THE SOUTH PACIFIC, MADE THEIR IMPRESSIONS OF THIS MONKEY INTO THE TENGU.

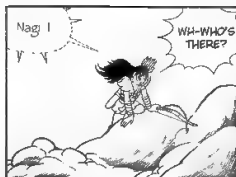












WH-WHO'S
THERE?



WHY IS THAT YOU NEVER
DIE WHILE WE HUMANS
MUST? IT'S NOT FAIR!

Not fair, you say? What do
you humans desire?
immortality? Everlasting
happ ness?

HOW
DO I
KNOW?

BUT TO BE
IMMORTAL LIKE
YOU...

Nagi look
in front of
you

Look at the insects
They are alive too.
But only for six
months

The mayfly's life
is even shorter.
Once it matures,
it lives but three
days...

...and it doesn't
complain.

WHAT DO
BUGS
KNOW?

In the life
bestowed them
by nature...



...insects grow,
eat, mate, lay
eggs, and die
satisfied.

Men live
longer than
the insects,
dogs, cats
or monkeys



If they
realize the
joy of living
in the life
they have

isn't that
happiness?



I DON'T
KNOW WHAT
YOU'RE
TALKING
ABOUT...

BUT THIS I
KNOW FOR
SURE, I'M
GOING TO
SHOOT YOU!



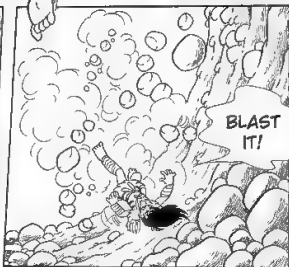
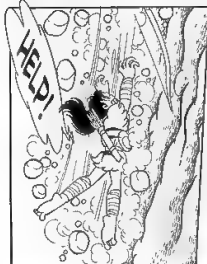
Nag, if you
refuse to
understand you
must die too!

I'LL DRINK
YOUR
BLOOD
BEFORE I
DO!

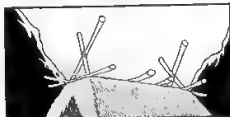
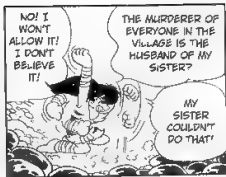


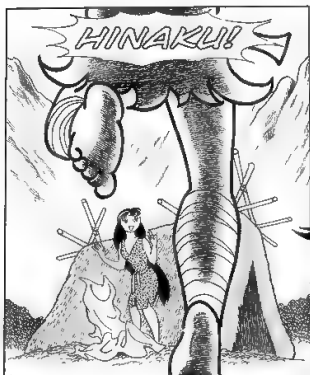








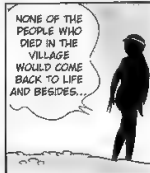








BUT EVEN IF I
DID KILL HIM,
WHAT GOOD
WOULD IT DO?
WOULD IT EASE
MY HATE?



NONE OF THE
PEOPLE WHO
DIED IN THE
VILLAGE
WOULD COME
BACK TO LIFE
AND BESIDES...



WHAT?



I DECIDED TO
REMAKE THE
VILLAGE BY HAVING
AS MANY CHILDREN
AS...AS IS
POSSIBLE...



WHAT? WHAT
KIND OF
NONSENSE...?



I'LL HAVE A
HUNDRED OR
MAYBE EVEN
TWO HUNDRED.

I'LL BEAR A THOUSAND CHILDREN BEFORE I DIE! AND THEN, WHEN THEY GROW UP, THEY'LL HAVE CHILDREN OF THEIR OWN...



AND THOSE THOUSANDS WILL MAKE THE NEW VILLAGE!

HOW MANY YEARS WILL THAT TAKE?

WELL, MAYBE FIVE HUNDRED OR A THOUSAND



HUSH NOW! HUSH...



LOOK! HERE ARE MY CHILDREN!



SEE?

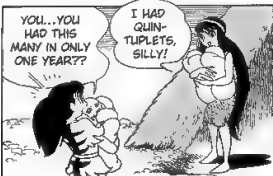


SEE?



YOU...YOU HAD THIS MANY IN ONLY ONE YEAR??

I HAD QUIN-TUPLETS, SILLY!



FIVE OF THEM?

AND WE AIN'T THE OSMONDS!







BUT I'VE GOT
TO CATCH
THAT BIRD
FOR HINAKU!
IF I CAN GIVE
ITS BLOOD TO
HER SHE
WON'T DIE
AND CAN
BEAR ONE
THOUSAND
CHILDREN!



IT'S THE LEAST
I CAN DO TO
ATONE FOR MY
CRIME.

PLEASE
UNDER-
STAND,
NAGI.



SURE,
I
UNDER-
STAND

I'LL
FORGIVE
YOU FOR MY
SISTER'S
SAKE.



BUT I'LL
NEVER LET
YOU HAVE THE
PHOENIX!



I'M THE
ONE WHO'LL
SHOOT HER!

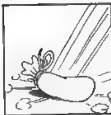
YOU'RE FROM
YAMATAI. I'M
FROM KUMASO.
AND THE PHOENIX
BELONGS TO
KUMASO!



I'LL SHOOT
HER AND
BRING THE
BLOOD
BACK TO
HINAKU!

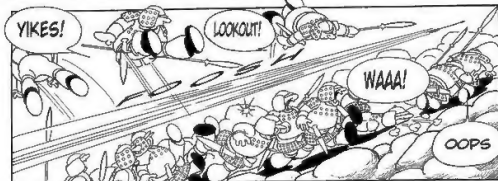
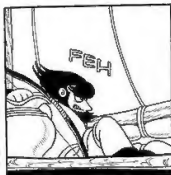


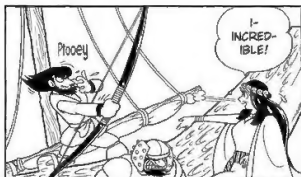
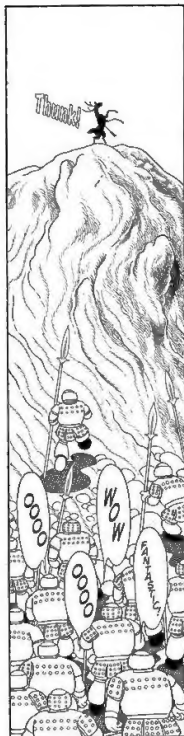
NAGI, WHY MUST
YOU GO? WON'T
YOU STAY WITH
US?!











I-
INCRED-
IBLE!

